Alleged German Spy Admits Taking $2,900; Calls Work a 'Game'

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By the Associated Press.

NEW YORK, Nov. 6.—Admitting he had accepted about $2,900 from Nazi agents, Roberto Lanas Vallecilla, charged with selling Government secrets to Germany, said yesterday, "I was playing a game to get money."

The 35-year-old Colombian, who had been a language translator for the Office of Co-ordinator of Inter-American Affairs, denied he had intended to harm the United States, saying, "I never intended to give them any real information."

The defendant testified that the only information he had sent Nazi agents was obtained from a Pan-American Union publication. Written in invisible ink on the back of an innocent-appearing personal letter, it was intercepted by the British in Bermuda.

Lanas said another invisible ink letter written in the presence of Miss Audrey Roncovieri, also a native of Colombia and a former WAAC lieutenant, asking for $400 to pay an aide was another ruse to obtain money. He added that he received the money but had not given it to Miss Roncovieri.

Earlier she had testified that Lanas offered her a job for $400 to $500 a month to deliver letters. She said that the offer "made it clear to me in every way, except telling me, so that I understood it was to be work for the German government."

Lanas, who said he had known Miss Roncovieri for four months, first was questioned last August by the FBI on his relations with the Nazis.

Federal Judge Murray Hulbert, woh denied defense motions to dismiss the charges, adjourned the trial until Monday.